

Mayor's Message

May 2008

When there is even a hint of Spring in the air, it wakes up my innate desire to get outside and work in the dirt. I look forward to the first warm day to mow my lawn and prepare the beds for planting flowers. I walk with a lighter step when the grass turns green, the leaves appear on the trees and the sun shines longer. When new projects start to take shape in the City, I like to take advantage of the extended daylight to check on their progress. I wanted to share with you some things to notice as you take your first outings of Spring.

Our City has been selected to host the Babe Ruth Baseball World Series next August. It will bring people from all over the world to enjoy the flavor of our City and the beauty of our parks. A big project has been undertaken to improve the north hillside around the Ken Price Ballpark. It will showcase this nice facility and provide additional seating for future events held there. Take a walk through Murray Park and detour over to the ball park to see the big improvements.

I have been contacted by several residents who have noticed our crews working to take out invasive species along the Jordan River Parkway in our City. We are participating in this work as part of the Natural Areas Land Management Plan that was put in place by Salt Lake County. The project involves removing species such as Russian Olive trees, Tamarisk, and thistle, which prevent the displacement of wildlife, frequency of spreading wild fires, and changes to the natural ecosystem. These plants are being replaced by other species that will help the Jordan River corridor regain its place as a resource for recreation and wildlife.

If you have had the opportunity to use the 5300 South freeway entrance, you have noticed work being done on an enhancement project. UDOT has partnered with the City to help improve this key gateway into Murray. The City Council worked with me to hire a seasonal employee to keep areas the City owns free from weeds. We want you to be proud of these improvements by keeping them well maintained.

Riding your bike is now safer as you cross the Jordan River on Winchester Street. A group of students from Horizon Elementary encouraged us, as elected officials, to provide a sidewalk crossing over the river. This project has been challenging, but is now completed.

I hope you will enjoy the warm weather by getting out to see and enjoy these new amenities. It is our desire to make these projects improve your quality of life in our wonderful City. Happy Spring!